

Application number 10/696,848
Amendment dated January 11, 2007
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2628

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 37-45 will remain pending in this application. Claim 37 has been rewritten in independent form. The dependency of claim 38 has been appropriately amended. Claim 38 was also amended for consistency. Claims 28-36 and 46-54 have been cancelled.

Claims 28-36, 38, and 46-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Omtzigt, United States patent number 6,067,643 in view of Van Hook et al., United States patent number 6,239,810 and Saito, United States patent number 6,940,519. This rejection has been obviated by amendment. Claim 37 has been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 37 has been rewritten. Claim 38 has been amended to depend on claim 37. The remaining claims have been allowed.

Replacement sheets prepared by a competent draftsman are attached. No changes to the drawings were made.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments
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